

D-7992

Foreign Affairs

February 22, 1945

Nicolas REISINI

With reference to the instruction of Officer i/c Foreign Affairs enquiries made re Nicolas REISINI show the following:- N.Reisini, Russian emigrant of Jewish origin, 39 years of age arrived at Shanghai from Tientsin on 22.2.45 and resided at Cathay Hotel, room 452. In hotel registration form N.Reisini stated, that he is connected with "Asia Industrial Mercantile Co" in North China and that this firm has local branch "Tairiko Tairo; No 113 Kiukiang Road. According to information received N.Reisini has business connection with Manchukuo Economical Mission at present located at Cathay Hotel as a person with a good knowledge of Shanghai market.

It is said, that N.Reisini original name was Boruh Resnikoff or Resnik, typical Jewish name. Later for a period he had Greek passport and changed his name to Reisini. He has reputation of a successful businessman who has several influential Japanese and Chinese friends who are backing him as he assists them in business transactions, some of them of illegal character.

It is reported, that N.Reisini besides being connected with Asia Industrial Mercantile Co and Manchukuo Economical Mission is engaged in private commercial activities

and smuggling of different goods between Manchukuo, North China and Shanghai being connected with many wealthy Jewish businessmen residing at Shanghai, Tientsin and Harbin. Among them is a number of persons who are closely connected with Soviet circles.

It is known, that N.Reisini visited Shanghai several times during last few years. He was residing at Park Hotel, Bubbling Well Road from 24.5.42 to 9.6.42 and again from 8.4.43 to 17.7.43. It is said, that he travelled some time from North China by air line although it is very difficult to obtain tickets for air line for private persons

According to information N.Reisini was recently visited by one V.O.Pereira-Ostrovsky, Portuguese citizen of Russian Jewish origin, partner of "Finance & Investment Co Ltd, No 51/306 Canton Road residing at No 213/E Rte Cardinal Mercier, closely connected with Soviet circles. His firm according to information is financed by Moscow Narodni Bank and is camouflaged Soviet firm. Finance & Investment Co Ltd according to information is also used by smugglers, financing their operation, and transacting money from Shanghai to North China

Enquiries show, that N.Reisini has business connections and is on friendly terms with following persons:-

B.M.Solomonik, Russian Jew who applied for USSR citizenship owner of "Borsol Fur Trading Co, No 220 Kiukiang Rd residing at No 176 Rte Dufour. Solomonik owns houses at Tientsin and according to information is connected with smuggling of different goods between Shanghai and Tientsin.

Israel M. Bresler, Russian emigrant of Jewish origin owner of Victoria Cafe, No 1002 Av Joffre, residing at No 351/3 Av Albert. J.M.Bresler has properties in North China and Manchukuo.

S.J.Zen Portuguese citizen of Russian Jewish origin partner of "Finance & Investment Co Ltd, No 51/306 Canton Road residing at No 24 Rte Boisseson. He resided formerly at Tientsin and has large business connections in that city.

According to information M.Reisini in Tientsin has close friendly and business connections with one Leopold, Swiss citizen of Russian origin, owner of a big house at Tientsin where is situated Tientsin "black market". Leopold, it is reported, visited Shanghai and is connected with smuggling. Leopold is on friendly terms with Jean George LIPSMAN, Rumanian Jew, former manager of Cathay Hotel residing at No 1202

Av Joffre who was arrested by Japanese Authorities.
J.G.Lipsman arrived at Shanghai on 24.2.41 from Calcutta,
India and was on friendly terms with Sir Victor Sassoon,
British financial magnate.

N.Reisini is also connected with Gedady/Henry/M.LEVITIN
- ~~him~~, USSR citizen of Jewish origin well-to-do businessman
residing at Tientsin. Levitin according information is a
head of a group of smugglers and is suspected of being
connected with Soviet Intelligence./subject of report of
March 1941² and April 10, 1944/.

It is rumoured, that N.Reisini brought from Manchukuo a letter of Dr Kauffman, head of Manchukuo's Jews to local Jewish community. It is said also that N.Reisini mentioned during conversation difficulty of living conditions of Manchukuo, activities of guerillas etc and general hard living conditions of Jewish community at this country.

D.S.I.

Officer i/c Foreign Affairs.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

C. S. 6, Special Branch. *Stevens*

REPORT

Date June 1, 1938.

Subject (in full) REISINI, N. - arrival in Shanghai.

Made by D. S. Hocking Forwarded by Inspector *E. P. H.*

Nicolas REISINI, Russian Jew, aged 32,
suspected of being concerned in espionage and illicit
traffic, see file D. 7992, arrived in Shanghai on May 30,
1938 on the s.s. "Hoten Maru".

Hocking

D. S.

94 + 93 (Crim)
D.C. (Special Branch).

for 8/2/38
OK 3/6
DC (Crim) FILE
DBP

CONFIDENTIAL

January 20, 1938.

Memorandum on NICHOLAS REISINI, alias REZIN.

NICHOLAS REISINI, alias REZIN.

Reisini, it is reported, was born in Harbin of Russian parents. After a fairly good education, he travelled widely in Europe and developed a certain flair for languages. In 1929 he returned to Harbin and established there a film company "Empico" for the distribution of European films in the Far East. This project met with little success and Reisini returned to Europe. In Paris he associated with SHVIRIA-SKY, a notorious drug smuggler, and, it is believed, as his agent returned to the Far East.

In Shanghai Reisini again set up his film agency "Empico". This appears to have been no more than a "blind", the films he distributed seldom showing at a profit and more often than not proving a dead loss.

At this time he became acquainted with Bahmani and from him obtained loans which on good authority are stated to have amounted to \$30,000 mex. This sum was loaned ostensibly to finance Reisini's film agency; it is reported, however, that in reality it was used to further a scheme for the illicit traffic in narcotics. Rumour stated that both Reisini and Bahmani were not interested in drugs but were agents of the Soviet country; this, however, was not substantiated. At the outbreak of hostilities Reisini accompanied by his wife left Shanghai and travelled via Japan to Dairen from whence he was expected to leave for Europe. Reisini is in possession of a Greek passport particulars of which are not available. Besides Bahmani,

FILE
242.
244.

smugglers; Henri Kuhne, a Netherlands subject, unfavourably known to the Netherlands authorities in connection with matters concerning embazzlement; Franz Fischer, a German employed by Reisini as secretary and formerly an interpreter at the German Consulate in Vladivostock.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. 4792
18-10-37

Cr.Br.Hqs., C.7 Station,

Date. October 18, 1937.

REPORT

Subject N. Reisini.

Made by D.S. Hillhouse. Forwarded by Supt. MacDermott.

Sir,

With reference to attached reports, information has now been received to the effect that Reisini, who, at the outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities in the Shanghai area, departed to Japan and thence to Tsingtao, left that port for Dairen, accompanied by his wife, in the beginning of September, 1937, his final destination being Europe, where, it is said, he intends to visit France and Germany.

The exact object of his trip is unknown, but in view of his past associations in Shanghai, it is considered not unlikely to be in connection with the future smuggling of illicit drugs.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

ahj
10/10

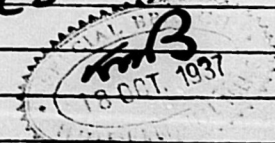
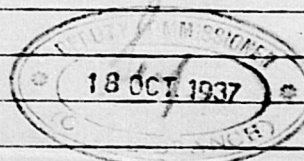
cc H. B.

J. Y. Hillhouse

D.S.

S1
CS 6

D.C. Crime.



Seen
CG 18/10

Noted
10/10

File
DBH
20/10

No. 3193.

CONFIDENTIEEL

SHANGHAI, 27 September 1937.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that information obtained in the Netherlands East Indies concerning the Netherlands subject Henri Charles Arthur KUHNE (Kuehne) indicates that this person is unfavourably known in the Indies as far as financial matters are concerned. However nothing is known against him from a political point of view.

Mr. Kuehne was the object of a visit made to this Consulate on July 7, 1937, by one of your officials, who expressed his suspicion that Kuehne, who is employed with the European Motion Picture Co. "Empico", 131-132 Embankment Building, was connected with Soviet propaganda.

The person concerned called at this Consulate on July 15th 1937 with regard to a personal question and unasked expressed his opinion that the business of the "Empico" was supported by Soviet capital, although he had no definite information.

Kuehne is still engaged with the "Empico" and seems to be in charge of the business during the absence of the manager.

In case more particulars will come to my notice, I shall not fail to inform you thereof.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Acting Consul-General.

The Commissioner of Police,
Shanghai Municipal Council,

SHANGHAI.

File
SHR 9/10

RECEIVED
30 SEP 1937
CH

C. 7.
NOTED.

7/10

September 29,

37.

Acting Consul-General,
Consulaat-Generaal Der Nederlanden
Voor Midden-China,
S H A N G H A I.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter No. 3193, dated September 27, 1937, and in reply have to inform you that the contents have been noted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir:

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd) K. M. Bourne.

Acting Commissioner of Police.

W/.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

Cr.Br.Hqrs.C.7. 7722

Station,

REPORT

July 13, 1937.

Date 19

Subject

N. Reisini.

Made by D.S.I. Rhind.

Forwarded by Supt, MacDermott.

Sir,

With reference to the attached report, I beg to forward herewith a brief dossier on N. Reisini (bearing his photograph) which corroborates the information obtained by the Special Branch and reveals that Reisini's associates for the most part are well-known narcotic smugglers, a fact which leads to the conclusion that he is himself concerned in the illicit traffic. It is perhaps useful to give brief particulars of these associates.

- (1) M. Katz, Polish Jew, is a member of an international ring of narcotic smugglers and his movements are being watched. Reisini has been seen in his company a great deal lately. It is reported that they have known each other for fourteen years.
- (2) Shviriansky is a notorious narcotic smuggler.
- (3) The Discount Savings Bank, from which Reisini is reported to have obtained a loan of \$40,000.00, is owned by two Persians named S.I. Djangaroff and Y.A. Bahmari. These two individual are known to be responsible for the smuggling of Iranian (Persian) opium into China.

Some reports suggest that Reisini is engaged in espionage as well as the illicit traffic. His local legitimate business known as "Empico" has brought him little or no profit and looks like a blind for his other activities.

It is important to note that Reisini is planning to go to Europe on or about July 17, 1937. So far there is no information as to the route which he intends to take but enquiries in this connection are being continued. He is in possession of a Greek passport.

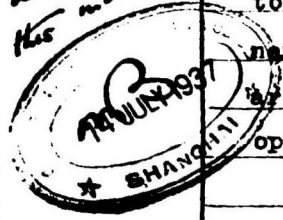
I am, Sir,

Yours obediently

D.S.I.

S.I.
In a hand in
DBR

O.Y. SpB
Note.
Blank with C7
in future in
this man



March 30, 1945.

I.M. BRESLER

With reference to instruction from the Officer i/c Foreign Affairs enquiries made re. I.M. Bresler show the following:-

Israel Meerovich BRESLER, Russian emigrant of Jewish origin was born on 17.5.1913 at Odessa, South Russia. He arrived to Harbin from Uman, Ukraine via Manchuria in 1927 together with his parents. Bresler received his education at the 1st Harbin Community Commercial School and subsequently studied at Harbin Politechnicum. He is an architect-engineer by profession, speaks English and a little Japanese language.

From 1938 to 1939 I.M. Bresler resided at Kobe, Japan as a representative of "South American Co", 150 Kiukiang Road, Shanghai. On November 30, 1939 I.M. Bresler arrived at Shanghai from Kobe on board of s.s. "Tayo Maru".

At present I.M. Bresler is a partner and manager of "Victoria Cafe", 1008 Av Joffre and Bakery, 1502/75 Av Joffre. This firm has branches in Tientsin and Manchouo.

I.M. Bresler is married to Mrs Salin K. Bresler nee Chekalina, Russian emigrant, Orthodox by faith born on 9.4.1913 at Harbin, and educated at Oksakovsky Middle School. I.M. Bresler resides since 12.6.40 at 351/31 Av Albert, King's Albert Apts. With Bresler's family resides his sister-in-law Miss Lidia K. Chekalina, born on 25.2.1918 at Riasan a dentist by profession.

Bresler's father Meer Srulevich BRESLER resides at Harbin, No 33 Rinochnaia Street. He owns "Prima Piece Goods, Haberdashery Store" at No 50 Mostovaia Street. With him resides his wife Mrs Malka Osipovna Bresler.

776 According to information I.M. Bresler is on friendly terms with certain M. REISINI Russian emigrant of Jewish origin who arrived from Tientsin on 22.2.45 and resides at Cathay Hotel, room 452. Reisini is connected with "Asia Industrial Mercantile Co" in North China and with local branch of this firm "Tairiko Tairo", 113 Kiukiang Road. According to information M. Reisini assist Bresler in transaction of money from Shanghai to North China where are situated branches of Victoria Co.

Besides N.Reisini according to information I.M.Bresler is connected with W.G.Pereira-Ostrovsky, Portuguese citizen of Russian Jewish origin residing at 213/E Rte C.Mercier and S.J.Zen, Portuguese citizen of Russian Jewish origin residing at 24 Rte Boisezon. Both these persons are partners of "Finance & Investment Co Ltd 51/306 Canton Road. This company according to information is a camouflaged Soviet enterprise financed by Moscow Narodni Bank. This firm it is reported is used by smugglers for money transactions etc. Both W.G.Ostrovsky-Pereira and S.J.Zen resided formerly at Tientsin and have large business connections in this city.

According to information I.M.Bresler transmits money to his branch firm at Tientsin and vice versa through the medium of "Finance & Investment Co Ltd being on friendly terms with partners of this enterprise.

In connection with the friendly relation of I.M.Bresler with ^{Pereira/} N.Reisini and W.G/Ostrovsky and S.J.Zen it is rumoured, that Bresler is also connected with smuggling of different goods between Shanghai and Tientsin.

During last few year I.M.Bresler made several trips to Tientsin. He resided at 91 Race Corce Road when at Tientsin.

I.M.Bresler's guarantors at the Russian Emigrants Committee are S.Faingold 92/23 Rue Marcel Tilot and S.Hesin, 799 Av Joffre both these persons are Russian emigrants of Jewish origin and merchants by profession.

D.S.I.

Officer i/c Foreign Affairs.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

SECRET

Section 1, Special Br. *St. 1044*

REPORT

Date July 8, 1937.

Subject N. REISINI - European Motion Picture Company, "Empico."

Made by D.S. Henschman

Forwarded by *C. G. G. G. G.*

With reference to the attached report concerning Nicolas Reisini alias Rezin, manager of the European Motion Picture Company, enquiries have failed to confirm that he is in any way connected with the German secret service or that he is interested in collecting information regarding political and military affairs. He appears to be a business man of rather doubtful reputation who at the moment is interested in the distribution in the Far East of European films. No particular mystery seems to attach itself to him unless it be in his relations with the Discount-Savings Bank. Of his associates Kühne and Fischer further particulars are given later in this report. Kühne, it should be noted, is not, as stated in the attached report, an alias of Reisini but the name of a separate person.

Reisini, it is reported, was born in Harbin of Russian Jewish parents. He received a middle school education and during his twenties went to Europe where he travelled widely. While in Europe he acquired a good knowledge of the German and French languages; he can also make himself understood in English and in Chinese. Towards the end of 1929 he returned to Harbin where he established a film company "Empico," with the object of distributing European films in the Far East. His scheme lacked sufficient financial backing and met with little or no success. In 1934 he returned to Europe and with the idea of interesting German film companies in his Far Eastern project he visited Berlin. In Berlin he appears to have been more successful and returned to Shanghai with a number of films which he persuaded local cinema managements to exhibit. These films showed at very little

*Noted
8/10
P.A.
What do we
know of
Discount Savings Bank*

*D.C. (C-)
Can C7 on
connections
there any
begin on this
man.*

RECEIVED
JULY 1937

9/7

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

Station,

REPORT

Date.....19

-2-

Subject.....

Made by.....

Forwarded by.....

profit barely covering expenses, and Reisini made efforts to raise capital to purchase or hire more films from the European companies. For some time he was unsuccessful and then made the acquaintance of Y. A. Bahmani of the Discount-Savings Bank, 465-467 Avenue Joffre. Bahmani during this year has lent Reisini sums which on good authority are said to total \$30,000. The Bank charges him 10% interest on this sum and the loan has been made apparently on no other security than the films which Reisini brought with him from Europe, films which have already been shown with very little profit in Shanghai. Reisini states that he intends showing these films in Japan, he has already made a trip to that country with this intention, and in Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies. Even with these prospects it appears peculiar that the Discount-Savings Bank should be prepared to forward such a large sum.

A certain authority in Shanghai received information to the effect that Reisini's connection with "Empico" is in the nature of a "blind" and that he is actually an agent of the 4th "Empthlion" (Soviet comintern). This suggestion has been thoroughly investigated and lacks substantiation; the interested authority, however, in turn puts forward the suggestion that Reisini is an agent of the European narcotic ring and in support of this, information has been received that a new narcotic agent is expected from Athens. The connection here is that Reisini states that he is a Greek and is registered, as also is his company, at the Greek Consulate. While it has been impossible to obtain particulars of Reisini's passport, it is not, however, believed

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,

-3-

Date. 19

Subject

Made by Forwarded by

to be Greek but is said to have been issued in the free city of Danzig. He resides at present with a woman whom he states to be his wife, at 321 Avenue Petain and is believed to rent, under another name, an apartment in the Park Hotel.

Reisini employs in his office at 131-132 Embankment Buildings, a Netherlands subject named Henri Charles Arthur Kühne and a German named Franz Fischer.

Kühne previously came to the attention of Police in 1934 (Vide D.6209). He absconded on one or two occasions without paying his debts and was concerned in a case of embezzlement in Batavia. He came to Shanghai in 1934 from Japan from whence due to his having been involved in shady financial transactions, he was deported. Shortly after his arrival he was reported missing; it was believed that his absence was due to the fact that he was aware that enquiries were being instituted regarding his past. He was subsequently located and found living at 43 Kao Tung Road, Chenju, near Shanghai. At this address and until he became associated with Reisini he managed to earn a living by teaching English to Chinese students. While in Batavia he was employed by the firm of Braudin Mesriks, a film company which distributed films in India; it was because of his knowledge of the film business that he was employed by Reisini. Kühne is in possession of Netherlands passport No. 1102 issued in Soerabaya on 28.10.33; he resides at 11 West End Lane, Quinsan Road, and is registered at the Netherlands Consulate.

Fischer is a German who owing to his linguistic abilities, he speaks Russian and Chinese, received temporary employment during 1929 and 1930 in the German Consulate in Vladivostock.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,

-4-

Date, 19

Subject

Made by Forwarded by

From 1930 and until the time he met Reisini he was employed in a similar capacity in Harbin. During the Great War he looked after German prisoners in Siberia and was at the same time connected with the Swedish Red Cross. He is not mentioned in Police records and there appears to be nothing detrimental known concerning him; Reisini, who employs him as a secretary, owes him considerable arrears in wages.

It is believed that Reisini contemplates a visit to Batavia; his movements will be watched and anything of interest will form the subject of a further report.

D. S. D. S.

Captain sent to H. J.

D. S.

D.C. (Special Branch)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

SECRET
REPORT

Section 1, Special Br. *St. 1/1/37*

Date June 4, 1937.

Subject (in full). German Intelligence Office in Shanghai.

Made by C.D.I. Sih Tse-liang

Forwarded by. *[Signature]*

It is reported that the European Motion Picture Co. (欧洲影片公司), located in Rooms 131 and 132, Embankment Building, Soochow Road, is in reality a secret service organ of Germany, established for the purpose of collecting intelligence on Chinese political and military affairs as well as activities of foreign representatives in China. The person in charge of this Company, which was established in January, 1937 and registered with the Greek Consulate-General, is one named N. Reisini, who has two aliases, namely, Rezin and H. Kuhun. It is said that he was formerly attached to the German Consulate at Vladivostok.

Sih Tse-liang
C. D. I.

H & J

D.C. (Special Branch)



D. S. Henchman

11

Copies sent
J. 1/1/37

13-3-45.

(His photograph on the
Pao Chia Card.)

No. 776

Surname RWISINIChristian Name Nicolas GrigorievitchAliasNationality Russian Emigrant of Jewish
origin.Date of Birth 7-7-1905Place of Birth Saloniki, Greece.Passport No.Date of IssuePlace of IssueProfessionPresent Employment: "Asia Industrial &
Mercantile Co." 113 Kiukiang Rd. Room 609,
(Registered in Manchukou)No. of Tel. Office 10916
Residence 91010Organization, member of:

Present Address.Date of
Arrival.Photo.Members of Family.
Married.*Repts sent to Tokyo
for file 22, 1944.*

December 4, 1935.



Alias Nicolas Reisini; Nicolas Rosini; and Isaak Reizin.
Is a Russian Jew by birth with a Greek passport. Arrived in Harbin recently from Paris via USSR. Was the right-hand man in Paris of the notorious Shviriansky and had actually lived together with the latter. Reported that he came to the Far East as Shviriansky's representative, and that he would visit Dairen and Shanghai.
As one of Shviriansky's family is now in USA, it might be noted that he is "interested" in shipment of some "cargo" to States.
March 10, 1936. French Police failed to disclose any trace of the sojourn of this person in Paris.
December 8, 1936. He arrived here from Harbin via North China a couple days ago,

NAME

ALIAS

REISIN, NICOLAS

and is now staying at Park Hotel, room 1215.

He claims to be the Far Eastern Representative of "Empico", an European Motion Picture Co., and is establishing an office in China, Japan, and Manchukuo.

Jan. 29, 1937. Mr. & Mrs. N. Rosini removed from Park Hotel to No. 321 Ave. Petain, apt. 46 (Georgia Apts.), tel. 74682.

May 24, 1937. Reisini, who was lately seen in company of the notorious M. Katz, left for Tientsin by train on May 22, 1937.

He is expected to be back here within 2 weeks and then proceed to Europe via Japan, Manchukuo and USSR.

Inspite of small income, which he made from 3 European pictures in Shanghai, he has spent a lot of money on apartment, office, 2 motor cars, and pretty and spending wife. It is also reported that he is connected with Messrs. Djangarian & Bahmany, 2 Persian bankers in Shanghai.

May 29, 1937. His real name is Reisin, but somehow he obtained a Greek passport and became "Dr." Nicolas Reisini. He is at present staying at Talati House Hotel in Tientsin and is expected to return to Shanghai soon. Lately he was seen in company of M. Katz.

FORM
USTA 4